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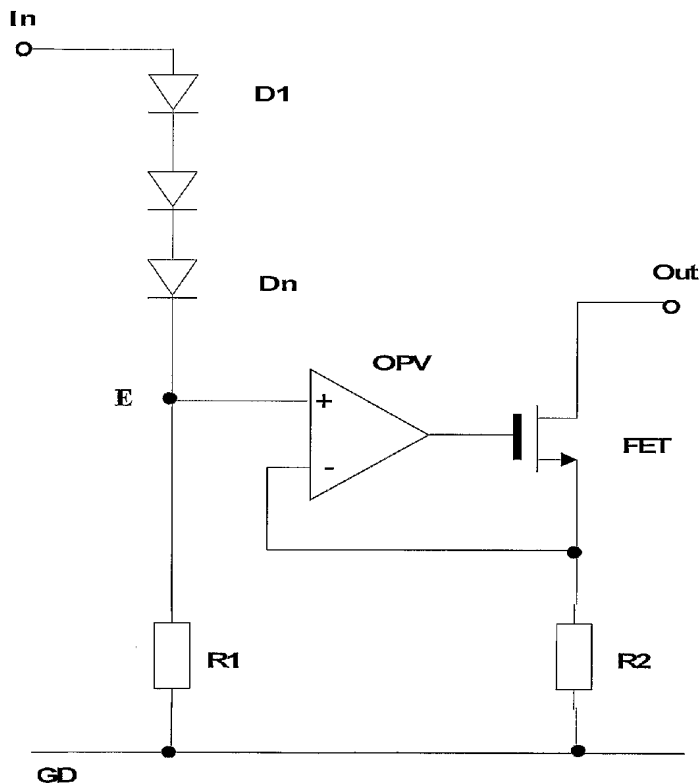
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(54) Title: COMPATIBLE LASER MODULATION CIRCUIT FOR SCANNER IN OPTICAL STORAGE MEDIA RECORD-  
ING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a compatible optical scanner with an improved laser modulator for recording or reproduction apparatuses of optical recording media. Although the input characteristic curves of older and newer optical scanners fundamentally differ on account of different modulator circuits, a circuit arrangement for an optical scanner with an improved laser modulator is specified which is completely compatible with previously used optical scanners. The compatible scanner with an improved laser modulator, which is a laser modulator that at least partly or completely switches the laser current, has, at its input, a means for simulating the input characteristic curve of a laser, which means is formed for example by series-connected diodes D1...Dn or a zener diode that interacts with a current mirror at the input of the optical scanner. As a result, on the line providing the current for regulating the light power of a laser, a potential or a voltage corresponding to that of a laser is generated even though an improved laser modulator is connected. The potential or the voltage on the line is then used in a known manner, for example for changing over the sensitivity of a monitor diode used for regulating the light power of two different lasers. The area of application extends in particular to optical scanners in recording or reproduction apparatuses of optical recording media.

WO 2005/059906 A1



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